

We claim:

1. A liquid-activated lighted artificial ice cube, comprising:
a hollow body;
a pair of electrodes exposed on the exterior of said hollow body;
an electronic circuit disposed within said hollow body, said circuit including a battery, an LED, an active circuit element controlling current between said battery and said LED, an electronic switch responsive to current flowing through a conductive liquid path between said electrodes for controlling current between said battery and said active circuit element, said electronic switch being connected to said pair of electrodes;
wherein said electronic switch disconnects said active circuit element from said battery in the absence of a conductive liquid path between said electrodes and thereby deenergizes the entire circuit.
2. The ice cube of claim 1, wherein said active circuit element is an integrated circuit.
3. The ice cube of claim 2, wherein said electronic switch is a transistor.
4. The ice cube of claim 3, wherein said active circuit element provides current to said LED such that said LED is held on continuously while current flows through a conductive liquid path between said electrodes.
5. The ice cube of claim 3, wherein said active circuit element provides current to said LED intermittently such that said LED flashes while current flows through a conductive liquid path between said electrodes.
6. The ice cube of claim 4, wherein said active circuit element interrupts current to said LED such that said LED is turned off in the absence of a conductive liquid path between said electrodes.

7. The ice cube of claim 4, wherein said active circuit element interrupts current to said LED such that said LED is turned off a set period of time after removal of a conductive liquid path between said electrodes.
8. The ice cube of claim 1, wherein said electronic switch is a transistor.
9. The ice cube of claim 1, wherein said active circuit element provides current to said LED such that said LED is held on continuously while current flows through a conductive liquid path between said electrodes.
10. The ice cube of claim 1, wherein said active circuit element provides current to said LED intermittently such that said LED flashes while current flows through a conductive liquid path between said electrodes.
11. A liquid-activated lighted artificial ice cube, comprising:
 - a hollow body;
 - a pair of electrodes exposed on the exterior of said hollow body;
 - a printed circuit board disposed within said hollow body, said circuit board having mounted thereon an LED, an integrated circuit in die form, and a transistor; and
 - a battery disposed in the lower half of said hollow body below said printed circuit board,said battery being connected to said LED, said integrated circuit, said transistor and said electrodes.
12. The ice cube of claim 11, wherein said electrodes are located at the bottom of said hollow body.
13. The ice cube of claim 12, wherein said LED is located in the upper half of said hollow body.

14. The ice cube of claim 13, wherein said hollow body includes a bottom wall having at least one lower standoff extending upwardly therefrom and includes a top wall having at least one upper standoff extending downwardly therefrom, said circuit board being sandwiched between said lower and upper standoffs.

15. The ice cube of claim 14, wherein said hollow body includes a bottom wall having a plurality of posts spaced and sized to receive and hold said battery therebetween.

16. The ice cube of claim 15, wherein said plurality of posts and said at least one lower standoff are of approximately equal height.

17. The ice cube of claim 16, wherein said hollow body includes a bottom wall, four side walls that are substantially perpendicular to said bottom wall and extend upwardly therefrom, said four side walls being integrally joined together at four substantially vertical corners and being integrally joined to said bottom wall to form an open-topped box, and further includes a top wall hermetically sealed to top surfaces of said side walls to form an enclosed space in which said circuit board and battery are disposed.

18. The ice cube of claim 17, wherein each post includes an arcuate inner surface.

19. A liquid-activated lighted artificial ice cube, comprising:
a hollow body;
a pair of electrodes exposed on the exterior of said hollow body;
a printed circuit board disposed within said hollow body, said circuit board having mounted thereon an LED, an integrated circuit in die form, and a transistor; and
a battery disposed in the lower half of said hollow body below said printed circuit board,
said battery being connected to said LED, said integrated circuit, said transistor and said electrodes; and

a weight surrounding said battery in the lower half of said hollow body, the mass of said weight being selected such that said hollow body floats substantially submerged at the surface of a liquid in which it is immersed.

20. The ice cube of claim 19, wherein said weight is a substantially planar sheet having a hole therethrough to provide clearance for said battery.